葬送曲
ナイトメア
Nightmare of the FUNERAL MARCH
亜樹新
Aki Arata
1
BLADE COMICS
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Aki Arata
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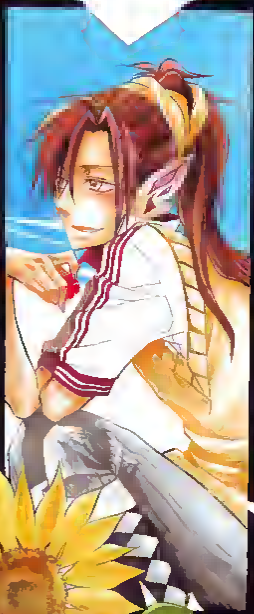
NIGHTMARE OF the FUNERAL MARCH



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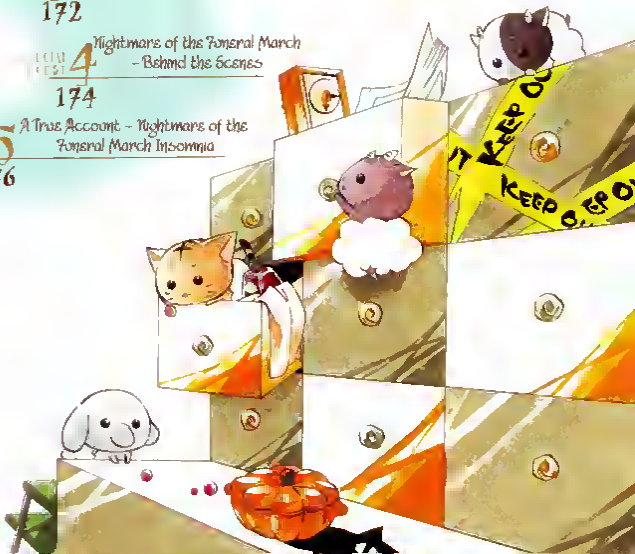


Baku — a Japanese supernatural creature that eats dreams and is sometimes depicted in the form of a tapir.

GUEST 1 Finding You

I hear
that voice again
NO!
Wait
NO!
Don't disappear
My...
NO!

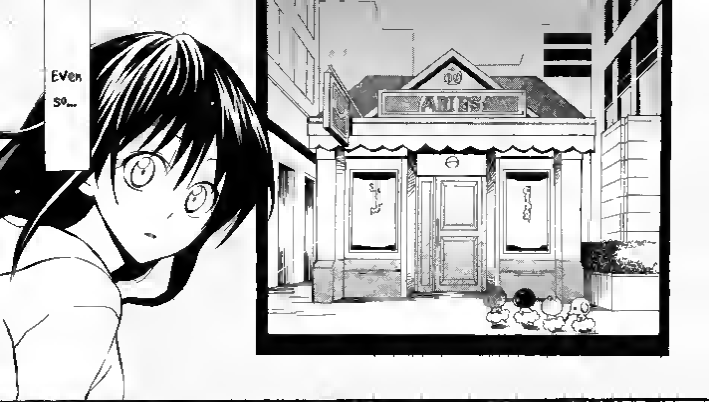
NO...
Vroom

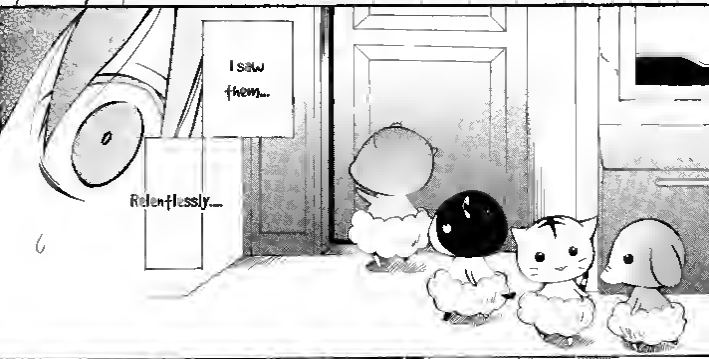
A DREAM
THAT'S RIGHT.. I DON'T WANT TO GO
I GUESS I'M TIRED

Sish
YUYUKO.. YOU HATE GOING TO SCHOOL THAT MUCH?

Vroom
THERE ARE..
Only human
You're only human
THAT DON'T WORK OUT..
THERE ARE THINGS
WELL..

YOU'VE WANTED TO WRITE FAIRYTALES SINCE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, AND YOU'VE KEPT GOING WITH IT.
THAT'S GREAT-
IT'S NOT THAT GREAT. I'M JUST STUBBORN
IT IS
WE WENT TO SCHOOL TOGETHER EVEN OUR UNIVERSITY MAJOR MEANT WE WERE TOGETHER
YOU COULD HAVE JUST SAID WE WERE CHILDHOOD FRIENDS.
THAT IS PRETTY AMAZING.
BUT I...
LIKED THE STORY YOU WROTE RECENTLY.
THANKS.
AS ONE OF YOUR READERS, I'M LOOKING FORWARD TO IT
THE FUTURE MISS YUYUKO
The choice I made...
YES
was it right?
I felt inferior to my peers.
My teacher said I'd ruined myself...
GIVE UP...
IF A TEACHER SAID THAT AND I QUIT SCHOOL...
THE NEXT STOP IS TAKI STATION
I WOULDN'T HAVE GOT WHERE I AM...


Even so...
ATELIER


I saw them...
Relentlessly...

What awakened my desire to create...
WELL...
I GOT OFF THE BUS...

ARIES
Atelier
Gallery
This shop...
doesn't fit in with its surroundings...
What did I see earlier?
HELLO...
tinga-ling

SWISH
THUD
THERE'S
NO ONE HERE?
WELCOME TO ARIES!

A child?
Hey?
When did he?
THIS SHOP SELLS ANTIQUES AND KNICKKNACKS
SMILE
IT'S SEEMS YOU'VE FOUND WHAT YOU'RE LOOKING FOR
HMM?
THE NOTEBOOK OF MEMORIES

From earlier...!
AH !
THAT'S
RUB
SNACKS
THAT'S RIGHT!
RUB
YES, IT'S A NOTEBOOK THAT HAS CONTROL OVER YOUR DREAMS
YOU'LL BE TAKING IT, WON'T YOU?
swush
NO, I'M NOT REALLY...
HOWEVER AS PAYMENT
tap
Hey...

I'LL TAKE YOUR DREAMS.
RUSTLE
Wait...
Wait a minute!

VROOM
wheeze
What was...
that?
A day dream?
Hmm?
What's this feeling?
ANYWAY I'LL GO BACK TO RETURN THE NOTEBOOK..
THEN I'LL GO TO SCHOOL..
AH!
I TOOK IT WITH ME
THE NOTE-BOOK...
I didn't pay either

Am I still dreaming?
But it looks kind of familiar...
That shop and the other buildings aren't here.
WELL...
NEVER MIND...
I'LL FIND A STATION AND RETURN HOME SOON
NEVER MIND ABOUT SCHOOL TODAY.
The novel I sent to the publisher's wasn't well received...
This time, I don't know what to do next.
ARE YOU AN IDIOT?

IT'S NO GOOD
YOU'RE NOT SMART
OF COURSE IT'S IMPOSS -IBLE
YOU CAN'T BECOME ONE OF THOSE WITHOUT HAVING TALENT!
AHAHAHA

BUT...

thud
What was that?

What's happening?
YUYUKO
sigh
WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
When I was in high school...
SAEKO...?
IT'S SEWING CLASS NEXT
This is the school I went to?
ANYWAY, YUYUKO
YOU SAID YOU'RE GOING TO A WRITER'S UNIVERSITY
This is...

YOU CAN TAKE IT EASY... GOOD FOR YOU
EVEN THOUGH THERE'S NO GUARANTEE YOU'LL BECOME A WRITER YOU'RE WORKING TOWARDS YOUR DREAM
I RESPECT YOU...
My memories...
whoosh
That's right --
I remember --
whoosh

Was I to emphasize my will?
"If it's difficult, then just give up."
Even so
Even if she'd be angry at me
SEWING ROOM
Wasn't I trying to protect my dream?
I never wanted to give up.
I decided to be a writer, so that I could be better than her.
CREAK

ting-a-ling
OH!
WELCOME
That shop!
HELLO!

I'D LIKE A NOTEBOOK
BUT...
The Child from that time...!
I'M SORRY
WE'RE SOLD OUT OF NOTEBOOKS TODAY
MISS. THIS IS NO GOOD
I CAN'T USE THIS
IT'S FROM THIS SHOP, YOU SEE.
I'LL GIVE YOU THIS NOTE-BOOK!
I CAME TO RETURN IT ANYWAY!

IT'S BLACK ALL OVER
No way...
HUH?
hehe
I'm sure it was new...
This is ...
I wrote this a long time ago...
YOUR DREAM NOTEBOOK
rustle
IS QUITE FULL OF NIGHTMARES
THIS IS A NOVEL, ISN'T IT?
MISS, ARE YOU A WRITER?

Ah...
I see...
WOW...
I WANT TO WRITE FAIRYTALES TOO!
a favourite story...
I had...
In my fourth year of elementary school, I read it all in one go.
A boy who travelled through the sky, riding a cloud sheep.
There were no illustrations
But I saw it sparkling
The story was just like a dream...
But, I too...

me, aren't you?
That's right, you're
WHAT IS THIS?
whoosh
whoosh
whoosh
SFX Boom
whoosh
whoosh
HERE

THE WORDS...!
mumble
HMM...
THE TRUE FORM OF YOUR NIGHTMARE IS "THE WORDS OF YOUR MEMORIES"
SURROUNDING WORDS STAINED YOU AND BECAME NIGHTMARES
Whoooosh
THAT DEVOURED YOU...

They stopped?
Pause!
STOPPING THEM TEMPOR-ARILY
THIS IS THE EXTENT OF WHAT I CAN DO
BOOM
NO...
HELP ME!
I WANT YOUR NIGHTMARES!
COME HURRY AND FIND IT
WHEN THE LIGHT DISAPPEARS SO DOES THE DARKNESS
THE PRESENCE OF DARKNESS IS PROOF THAT YOU HOLD THE LIGHT
My... light?

OVER-COMING IT
DESTROYING IT SAVING IT
IT'S UP TO YOU
I...
NO...
It's no good...
I'm scared.
I can't move...
BUT...
NO...
I don't want to be hurt anymore!
I'LL...
BECOME A FAIRYTALE WRITER!
BUT, I...

TRY YOUR BEST WON'T YOU?
DEFIN -ITELY.
BECAUSE YOU'VE DECIDED IT'LL DEFINITELY COME TRUE
YOU CAN ENDURE THIS.
From now on...
The one getting hurt was that child
I wasn't being stubborn, the reason I didn't give up was...
Foolishly, she dreamed ...
The gazes and voices around her
Even so...

IT'S OKAY
IT'LL DEFINITELY COME TRUE
I wanted to protect myself
I believed in my future self
My small self...

WONDERFUL!
WELL THEN WE SHALL BURY YOUR BURDENS
SWISH
OKAY!
rustle

GOOD DAY!
POOF!

WE'RE EMPLOYEES OF ARIES!
TIGER
HEY! WHO PUT MY PICTURE ON A PENCIL BOARD?!
Cow
THAT'S NOT IMPOR-TANT RIGHT NOW
We're at work
Elephant
WELL, LET'S GET THIS DONE
Rhino

Glow

sfx rustle
"RECOVERY"

THANKS
rattle
The leaves were all swallowed up...
POP!
whoosh
The darkness is disappearing...
HEY! WERE YOU SURPRISED? HMM?!
HEY! DON'T TALK TO A CUSTOMER LIKE THAT!
MISS!

YOUR PRECIOUS NOTEBOOK
DON'T FORGET IT
YES.
THANK YOU
I won't forget
Anymore.

Bleah!
WITHOUT DOUBT
WE RECEIVED YOUR NIGHTMARE
WE'LL BE WAITING FOR YOUR NEXT VISIT
Hey...
Wait...

Wait a sec !
Vroom
A DREAM?
ALL OF IT?
LOOK YOU DROPPED SOME-THING
sigh
YUYUKO... THE BUS WON'T STOP THAT QUICKLY...
THAT NOTE-BOOK IS IMPOR-TANT DON'T FORGET IT.
PLONK
THE FUTURE MISS YUYUKO
YUYUKO

I tried looking for that shop
Later on...
but that small owner and his odd assistants were nowhere to be found.
However, could it be that, even now...
YOU MIGHT SEE THEM TOO
ARIES
HOW ABOUT MAKING IT INTO A STORY?
oh...
THAT IS WHAT I DREAMT ABOUT
Aries
Those who want to sell their nightmares.
come to the antiques and knickknacks shop

HEY!
I'M HUNGRY!
SQUEEZE
clatter
clatter
I've got to put the water back! I've got to... Big brother, don't just watch! Help me!
AHHHH!
IF YOU'VE GOT THE TIME TO BE TALKING THERE, GO AND FIND SOME CUSTOMERS!
AH...UNCLE... YOU'VE RUN OUT OF NIGHTMARES, HAVEN'T YOU?
YOU'VE BEEN TAKING IT EASY ALL THIS TIME... DO YOU WANT TO DIE?!
You're unreasonable!
tug
tug
Ah!
crash!
IF YOU DON'T BRING A CUSTOMER WITHIN 5 SECONDS,
I'LL KILL THAT IDIOT!
I'll be back...
Huh?

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Nightmare of the Funeral
Scarlet Carnival

GUEST 2 Shadow Copy

It's no good...
It's no good...
I've got to
become an adult...
I've got to pick it away...
So that I can walk by myself...

WHAT ARE...
ADULTS?
slash
"Becoming more like an adult"?
"This is an order from a superior.'
"Your feelings have got nothing to do with it."
TCH
IF I'M AN ADULT THEN TRY TO CONVINCE ME BY TALKING
I-I-I wasn't "it" unlike... Shou
THAT'S NOT MUCH OF AN EXCUSE
ANYWAY, I'M STILL ONLY 14...*
BUT...

* In Japan, you're considered an adult when you turn 20

Although I can't go back now...
I KNOW...!
IT'S ONLY JULY YOU'RE ALWAYS SO LAZY!
BUT I WANT TO HAVE FUN!
MOTHER LOOK! IT'S A COASTER
I'LL MAKE THIS MY SUMMER PROJECT
I felt the same that day.
being afraid of
the silence again.
I'm also unable to go forward.
There's no one who can answer me either.
While I don't understand, turning back means...

BIG BROTHER... DID YOU KNOW?
PARENTS
HEY
IF WE DON'T HURRY UP AND FIND SOMEONE WITH A NIGHTMARE
SHH!
In the comics that humans write,
If you're eating bread while turning a street corner, the person you bump into is the one you're meant to be with.
I'll find who I'm meant to be with too. .
I THINK IT S SUPPOSED TO BE WITH A PIECE OF TOAST NOT FRENCH BREAD.
Don't worry! I'm not a child anymore!
CHOMP
I HOPE YOU CHOKE ON THAT

IT'S COLD..
IT SEEMS LIKE EVEN THE SUN'S ABANDONED ME...
Is having your own opinion what makes you an "adult"?
Do you become an "adult" when you follow orders without question?
Ruchan, at times like that...
Dad said that once...
what was that?
THUD
THUD
THUD
THUD!
THU

Ah...
UWAA!
Kyaaa!
The sky is far away...
AH...
HE'S AWAKE!
!
That's right something hit me from behind...
I'LL CALL THE OWNER NOW!
Please rest!
THIS IS SOME KIND OF SHOP...
Creak
TAKKU
TAKKU

frush
It's not moving...
I WONDER WHAT TIME IT IS
This kind of shop exists...
Good day
Welcome to Aries
IT SEEMS THAT YOU'VE FOUND WHAT YOU'RE LOOKING FOR
He's dark!
Unusual. He surprised me
A shut-in?
!!

Who is that child?
GOO
The treasure chest of the "Voice"
That's what it is
PLUMP
What?
SWISH
Well then...
If I may get down to business...
RUSTLE
I'll take your nightmare

What is this?
SIR
ARE YOU ALRIGHT?
!
MY ASSISTANTS HAVE CAUSED YOU TROUBLE
BE CAREFUL ON YOUR WAY HOME
BECAUSE
YOU DON'T HAVE A SHADOW
a dream?
I'm sorry!
was it ...

Happy 20th birthday!
Son!
SFX: WOW!
DIZZY
Aniki, there's no school tomorrow, too
HOW ANNOYING...
SHUT UP!
GROWN UP...? EH? HE HASN'T GROWN UP
HE'S STILL SMALL, ISN'T HE?
You saw me just the other day
THAT LITTLE BOY RICCHAN'S ALL GROWN UP NOW...!
ha ha ha
ha ha ha
RICCHAN YOU'RE LATE!
Inoue
AH...RITSU
ha ha
AREN'T YOU BEING KIND OF HARSH--?
IT'S STUPID FOR ADULTS TO MEET EVERY WEEK JUST TO DRINK AND GET ROWDY!

NO...
NOTHING REALLY...
frush
WHAT'S WRONG?
Oh?
what is it?
OOPS
I forgot!
Oh.
ISN'T THE UNION HAVING A GENERAL MEETING TODAY?
AH TOUPYOU
??
Some thing ...
ouch
HA HA HA
HA HA HA
THAT'S FUNNY... RIGHT?
As if ...
SEE! THE TIME'S GOING BACK TO WHAT IT WAS BEFORE!
BUT IT'S OKAY! I DON'T HAVE TO HURRY THIS TIME!
IF I TURN THE HANDS ON RICCHAN'S CLOCK...

It can't be that they're not thinking anything...
sigh
I DIDN'T REALIZE THAT
click
JUST GETTING OLDER DOESN'T MAKE YOU ANY MORE MATURE.
Why are all the adults around me useless?!
They don't have any sense of responsibility!
As if I could laugh at that!
SLAM!
Something has to be abandoned...
Pain...
I intended to understand a little more...
The fear of having responsibility.
Sometimes my conscience holds me back...
I drag those with me as I walk.

I get the feeling none of the paths will be the right one.

That box...
AH!

Come to think of it, why am I...
HEY, WAIT MINUTE!

GRAB
!

WHO IS IT...?

DAD!
IT'S DONE!
AH.
THE SMALL BOX WITH A CLOCK ATTACHED?
YOU DID A GOOD JOB
DAD...!?
Eh.
secret club?
No way
AH!
IT LACKS IMPACT THOUGH..
Tss sk
This is ...
Dad's workshop?

How did this ...
BOX CLOCK NEO!
I'VE PUT A SECRET PRESENT INSIDE!
EH...IT WON'T OPEN?
THAT'S BECAUSE I MADE THE HANDS OF THE CLOCK INTO A LOCK!
IT WON'T OPEN WITHOUT THE CODE!
Hell yeah!
Waaaaaah!!
He can't stand being here any longer
Uwaaa
EH?! I'LL TELL YOU THE CODE TOMORROW!
IT'S YOUR BIRTHDAY TOMORROW SEE!
Could it be?
TOMORROW...?
hehe
YES!
That Child is...
LOOK, RICCHAN! THERE'S YOUR SHADOW!

DAD'S SHADOW IS BIG...
It already disappeared.
haha
THAT'S BECAUSE I'M AN ADULT!
LET'S GO HOME
IT'S CALLED... SHADOW COPY
It only happens on sunny days.
IT'S STRANGE
THAT'S TRUE
Ah, that's right.
If only time had stopped then.
YOU FINALLY...
SMILED...
ahaha
OH, YOU'RE PRETTY GOOD!
THAT'S BECAUSE DAD'S ALWAYS TALKING ABOUT IT!
Lalala
AH, THAT'S "YOSHIKU"
*Yoshiku is a well known Eroi (Japanese onomatopoeia for music) band.
I couldn't look up...

Because he knew it was going to rain that night...
-FSSSSH
YEAH...
I'VE GOT TO GO...
I'M TAKING CARE OF SOMEONE'S HOUSE.
RITSU...
I FOLLOW MY OWN JUDGEMENT
But...
Even so...
I'M WORRIED ABOUT THE RAIN LEAKING IN
I KNOW! I'M NOT SAYING I'M WORRIED. I'M SAYING IT'S DANGEROUS..
DAD...
BUT WHY...?
IS THIS WHAT AN ADULT WOULD DECIDE...?!

It's meaningless if you die...
The darkness was strangely comforting
My memory
but I had to walk alone
I was trying my best not to drown
I'm sorry
Sorry
I abandoned the box which couldn't be opened...
and sound disappeared from the world.
He was in an accident the car slid off the road
The day before my tenth birthday

I forgot your voice.
DON'T LEAVE ME BEHIND..
swish
AH..
FOUND YOUR SHADOW HAVEN'T YOU?
YOU'VE
WELL WHAT WILL YOU DO?
I'LL LEAVE IT UP TO YOU
SHADOW

THAT CHILD IS "DARKNESS"... THE TRUE FORM OF THE NIGHTMARE THAT HOLDS YOU BACK...
OR WOULD YOU MELT INTO THE DARKNESS WITH HIM, REMAINING A CHILD FOREVER?
JUST LIKE ME
IF YOU WANT TO BECOME AN ADULT, YOU HAVE TO GET RID OF YOUR YOUNGER SELF.
SHOCK
Abandon the darkness and become an adult...
Everyone...
Dad too?
THAT'S RIGHT BECOME AN ADULT
IT'S CALLED SHADOW COPY
As a child...
MAKE DECISIONS AN ADULT WOULD MAKE
DAD'S SHADOW IS BIG
That's because...

I DON'T WANT TO FORGET THIS CHILD WHEN I BECOME AN ADULT
WELL...
BUT...
Even though he was always an idiot...
I'm an adult
I CAN'T KEEP BEING A CHILD
He smiled, despite the burdens he carried.
RITSU ISN'T MY DARKNESS
I want to walk with him.

AH..I SEE...
HOW UNFOR-TUNATE...
SIGH...
THAT IS THE CORRECT ANSWER
Your attitude...
WHERE IS YOUR DARKNESS THEN?
Dark ness...
When I was lost, what I wanted to hear was...
THE NIGHTMARE WHICH MEANT YOU REMAINED LOST
RICCHAN AT TIMES LIKE THAT

My father's voice that I had forgotten...
A STRICT SUPERIOR USES HIS AUTHORITY TO MAKE A REQUEST
IMAGINE YOU WERE AT WORK
tick tock
WHAT WOULD YOU DO?
BUT YOU DON'T AGREE WITH THOSE INSTRUCTIONS

IT'S OKAY IF YOU DON'T KNOW!
IF YOU CAN MAKE YOUR OWN DECISION
THIS IS WHAT MY PREDECESSOR SAID TO ME THAT TIME
?
?
?
WOULD YOU DISAGREE EVEN IF IT MEANT LOSING YOUR JOB?
WOULD YOU RELUCTANTLY DO SOMETHING YOU THINK IS WRONG?
DON'T DISOBEY
SMILE
DON'T OBEY
LIKE THAT!
Got it!?
heh...
That's...

HAHA
IS THAT OKAY...?
splash
HEY, THE CLOCK!
WHAT...?

rustle
tick tock tick tock
IT STARTED MOVING!
It's morning...
WELL DONE.
WELL...
HURRY UP AND RECOVER IT!
POP
POP
Okay!
AH...
POP
UMM...
THE DATE...?
ABOUT THE DATE WE HAD ONCE...
IT WAS FUN.
I HOPE YOU'LL BE OKAY, RITSU.

We'll
meet
again.
Oh~
what an
amazing guy!
THUD
HE WAS JUST BEING POLITE.
THUD
YEAH.
WE'LL MEET AGAIN.

"RECOVERY"
SFX: BOOM

CLICK
I WONDER WHAT TIME IT IS...
FROM WHEN...
OH?
A DREAM?

THAT SHOP...?
AH...
AH...
THAT'S TOO BAD...

rattle

IT OPENED!
A MUSIC BOX?
OPEN...
THAT NOISE JUST NOW...
tick
tick
!
I'll tell you the code tomorrow.
Because it's your birthday.
twist
twist
THAT IS WHAT IT IS.
If it's a birthday song or something like that
that'd be embarrassing...
"Yosaku"!
ISN'T THAT WHAT YOU'RE INTO...?
Hahaha... Ellis has laughter

6..15...
THE 15TH OF JUNE
HUH
THAT'S MY BIRTHDAY..
IF I WAS THE OLD ME, I'D BE CRYING..
SLAM
JEEZ
6 IS?
You smiled...

Thanks
bleh
Without a doubt we received your nightmare.
If you ever decide that you dislike the world of adults, please come by again.
A darkness of the finest quality will be waiting for you
...

Happy 20th birthday!
Ricchan!
Everyone
Oh?
YOU PROBABLY DON'T HAVE A GIRLFRIEND TO CELEBRATE WITH!
Heh
COME ON! THE GUEST OF HONOUR SHOULD BE SITTING DOWN!
Uwaa! Touryou Ricchan
he's gone home!
I see...
GROWN UP..? EH? HE HASN'T GROWN UP..
HE'S STILL SMALL.. ISN'T HE?
.....
TOURYOU~ THAT LITTLE BOY RICCHAN'S ALL GROWN UP NOW..!
Heh
THANK YOU
Even though Dad's gone...
Every year...

SHUT UP...
ARE THEY KIDS?
Touryou-
Ricchan-
He said...
He said it to me!
I WONDER IF IT'LL BE SUNNY TOMORROW
ARIES

twist
THERE'S NOTHING TO BE SO HAPPY ABOUT
"DON'T DISOBEY, SMILE DON'T OBEY"..?
Heh
WHAT..?
A CONFUSED ONE!
BRING ME A WEAKER AND MORE MALICIOUS ONE NEXT TIME!
BEING HUNGRY REALLY DOES PUT YOU IN A BAD MOOD.
IF HE'D CHOSEN THE WRONG DARKNESS OR HAD BEEN SWALLOWED UP, HE'D HAVE BEEN A GOOD SOURCE OF NIGHTMARES!
He had potential!
Please stop that
WE WERE ABLE TO RECOVER THE NIGHTMARE RIGHT?
twist
twist
twist
twist
twist
THAT'S RIGHT..
No
I THINK HUMANS ARE INTERESTING TOO...

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AH, SAKU, IT'S A BELL CRICKET
CHIRP CHIRP
OK
HERE YOU GO
BUG KILLER
!
Bell crickets don't cause any harm...
SEEMS TO HAVE SOME BAD INSECTS
SOMEHOW THIS SHOP
Ah.

GUEST3
Light

A PARASITE THAT FEEDS ON HOPE, DESIRE AND LONGING
I SEE
IT DOESN'T EAT NIGHTMARES, BUT THE LIGHT PARTS OF HUMAN DREAMS.
A DREAM EATING FIREFLY?
but
hm...
PEOPLE WHO HAVE BEEN POSSESSED BY ONE, LOSE THEIR LIGHT AND DARKNESS AT THE SAME TIME.
THEY DON'T KNOW DESPAIR EITHER
HUMANS WITHOUT DREAMS ALSO LACK NIGHTMARES
ALL THAT REMAINS IS EMPTINESS.
THEN THE REASON THAT THE CUSTOMER
WHO CAME TODAY LEFT ALL OF A SUDDEN..
YES
HE ATE HER DREAM
THE INSECT THAT STOLE MY MEAL IS SOMEWHERE IN THIS SHOP...
SNIFF SNIFF
!!
GAZE

GRAB
There it is!
DIE!
WHERE..?
fsssh
KILLER
BRRR...
.....
BRRR...
HAHAHA!
YOU'RE THE ONE IN CHARGE AS USUAL, BAKKUN!
It's your fault
I'm careful grilling fish over a direct flame
YOU'RE THE ONE WHO'S GOING TO DIE
Mumph!
Mumph!
STRUGGL
STRUGGL

BUT IF YOU LOSE HIM...
YOU WON'T BE ABLE TO RETURN TO YOUR ORIGINAL FORM, RIGHT?
YOU WERE ORIGINALLY ALL ONE BEING.
LET'S BE FRIENDS
BAKKLIN
POOF!
SSSSh
IS THIS OKAY?
Somebody get something to tie him up or stab him with.
INSTANT DEATH

I HAD NO INTENTION OF HELPING YOU TO BEGIN WITH
YOU SHOULD DIE FOR TAKING AWAY MY PREY! YOU DAMN FIREFLY!
Glare Glare
I WAS ABOUT TO DIE OF HUNGER!
YOU SAVED ME! Thanks
BAKKUN HOW AWFUL OF YOU TO SAY THAT WHEN WE HAVEN'T MET FOR SO LONG
AH LONG TIME NO SEE NOW DIE
Ah, UMM..
IS HE SOME-ONE YOU KNOW?
MY NAME IS TSUYUKUSA
Nice to meet you
I'M A FIREFLY WHO WAS PARTNERED WITH BAKKUN BEFORE
AH
THEY DON'T SHARE MEMORIES
WAIT A MINUTE
NO, HE'S A STRANGER

Various types of food
A CONCERTO IS VERY EFFECTIVE AT ATTRACTING THEM
BAKU AND FIREFLIES ATTRACT HUMANS TOGETHER
I'LL SHOW YOU THIS FIREFLY'S WAY OF ATTRACTING CUSTOMERS
WOW...
IT SOUNDS AWFUL, RIGHT?
It's not even on the musical scale.
NA NA NA
It only sounds like the wind whistling.
THAT'S AWFUL.
SO, BAKKUN!
Surprise
IT WAS JUST THEN THAT I FOUND FOOD
IT'S LUCKY THAT IT WAS BAKKUN'S PLACE
THAT'S WHY HUMANS DON'T COME NEAR BAKKUN CONCEALED HIS WHEREABOUTS AND LEFT HIS FRIENDS THE FIREFLIES BEHIND
I WAS JUST ABOUT TO DIE OF STARVATION

I'LL STAY HERE AND PROVIDE LOTS OF HUMANS FOR YOU, OKAY?
Why should you?!
IT'S COEXIS -TENCE GIVE AND TAKE
love and peace
ALL YOU'LL DO IS TAKE
It'd be a great loss.
WELL
LET'S HAVE A COMPE -TITION
IF YOU TAKE THE NEXT CUSTOMER'S NIGHTMARE, I'LL GET OUT
OUT
HUH ?

I'LL STAY HERE
IF THE CUSTOMER PROVIDES ME WITH LIGHT
HEY
WHY DO I HAVE TO DO THAT?
It's my customer anyway!
THERE'S NO BENEFIT FOR ME IN THAT COMPETITION
IT'S OKAY
NEITHER ONE OF US IS LONELY
THE LONESOME CONDUCTOR
SHOOK HIS HEAD AT THE ORCHESTRA
What's he saying?

Don't get started by yourself!
WHY IS HE ACTING SO HIGH AND MIGHTY?
clap clap
I hope it's a girl
So hurry up and call the next customer!
Bakkun's limbs!
CREAK
TODAY'S CUSTOMER IS AROUND HERE..
HUH?
When was that? THEY COEXIST...
Don't read while walkin'
DREAM EATING FIREFLIES EXIST...
BUT WHAT ABOUT THAT...
BAKKUN?
THAT'S THE FIRST TIME I'VE SEEN BAKU EAT THAT MUCH
THAT'S RIGHT
IT'S KIND OF SATISFYING..
hehe
YOU...
HELLO..
tong-a-ling

GOOD DAY!
WELCOME TO ARIES!
GAME START!
Hmm?
WHICH ONE OF US WOULD YOU LIKE?
No!
This isn't that kind of shop!
What are these fishy thoughts!
It's a perfor-mance!
IT'S OKAY IT MAKES IT EASY TO UNDER-STAND!
BOUNCE
UMM...
BOUNCE
I WONDER IF YOU COULD SHOW ME SOME TABLEWARE...
THAT'S WHY I CAME
hmmm..

It's a set with polka dots!
There's a lovely set that just came in today
YES
Tableware is this way!
Great
He...
but I'll give it especially to you
It's lovely
I like it too.
BLUSH
Can do it!
She fell in love with the set right away
You understand your own sales point really well
oh, you're really enthusiastic about it, aren't you?
Get out... no, die!
If you start living here, there'll be less food for me.
I won't let you steal my food again.
Tsuyukusa...

Really? Yay! ♡
WELL, I THINK I'LL TAKE THIS THEN
looks like he's leaving? Aun
IN THAT CASE I'LL TAKE
YOUR NIGHTMARE AS PAY -MENT
FLICK
SORRY I ACTUALLY..
AH
SPLAT
hmmm..
IF I CAN
GET ONE CUSTO -MER..?
oh
OKAY!
GRAB
right...
IT'S AL..
AHHH!
EXCUSE ME
I HOPE THAT I'M WORRYING OVER NOTHING
BUT I CAN SEE A DARK SHADOW IN YOUR HEART

FSSSH
YOUNG LADY.. IF I CAN GET RID OF HIM, WILL YOU TELL ME ABOUT IT?
HOW UNREFINED HE MUST BE..
WHO COULD IT BE?
THE RAIN CLOUD THAT HIDES THE SUN..
I ALWAYS CHOSE THE TWO PERSON TEA SET. BUT THIS HAS SHAKEN ME..
I'VE NOTICED THAT DAILY LIFE HAS CHANGED
THE CUP...
WHY
I WISHED THAT YOU WOULD JOIN ME IN MY LONELINESS..
I'D LIKE THE PITIFUL MAN THAT STOLE YOUR HEART
TO BE FORGIVEN..
I MIGHT NOT BE A GOOD MAN.
ALTHOUGH I NOTICED YOUR HEART'S PAIN

I SHOULD HAVE DONE THIS FROM THE START
RIGHT, TSUYUKUSA?
I'LL GET YOU FOR LEAVING ME CRAWLING ON THE GROUND
Bakkun's 3 minute cooking
slash slash slash
He won't be forgiven!
He won't!
He won't!
AHHHH
Don't do that in front of a customer!
WAAH
PEEL OFF THE SKIN FROM THE MEAT, REMOVE THE NAILS, SEPARATE THE MEAT, GOUGE OUT THE EYES
Using these things you've prepared in advance.
Restart
I SHOULD HAVE SAID THIS EARLIER I'M TSUYUKUSA...
I WANT TO TAKE YOUR LIGHT...
LIGHT...?
clasp
Hahaha
THAT'S A KID'S JOKE!
Covering his eyes
That's an odd idea!
WAAH
Ah, what are you doing?! I'll turn you into mince!

I've found a prince...
WELL, WHO DO YOU THINK THAT COULD BE...?
YES.
I AM THE MOON, THE DWELLER OF THE NIGHT WHICH SHINES WHEN LIGHT IS CAST UPON IT...
THE SUN IS THE ONE WHO PROVIDES THAT LIGHT...
smile...
TSUYUKUSA IS PRETTY GOOD BUT THAT WOMAN DOESN'T UNDERSTAND.
RUMBLE
I...
WANTED TO BE SOMEONE'S WIFE...
BUT I ENDED UP ALONE
I AM THE ONLY ONE WHO KNOWS YOUR LONELINESS...
YOU MUSTN'T DO THAT
LET'S SHARE THE SAME DREAM...
YOU CAME HERE BECAUSE YOU HAVE BOTH LIGHT AND DARKNESS
IF YOU LOSE SIGHT OF THAT, EVERYTHING WILL RETURN TO NOTHING
IF YOU DON'T WANT TO BE DESTROYED...

SMILE
Don't look away...
Why?! Were you listening?
IT'S BECAUSE SHE HEARD THAT SHE'S TRYING TO FORGET
Even though I had such a nice smile...
I DON'T WANT TO SEE ANYTHING! MAKE ME FORGET EVERYTHING AND TAKE ME AWAY FROM HERE!
I'm gonna go to sleep!
No
!!!
GAKKUN THIS WAS A COMPETITION RIGHT?
SMILE
torch
AH BUT...
THIS MIGHT BE MY LAST ME I...

MAYBE I'M TIRED OF TRAVELLING NOW?
TSUYUKUSA..?
I'M AFRAID OF THE END..
BEING HAPPY..
BEING LONELY..
GAKKUN I HAD FUN..
heh, I'M THAT AGE
TSUYUKUSA..
WHAT.. YOU'VE BECOME THIS WEAK?
HAVE SOME FOOD!
GAKKUN DID YOU KNOW?

I'M AS LONELY AS A PERSON WHO KNOWS THEY CANNOT LIVE ALONE.
THEY'RE THE INSTINCTS NEEDED TO LIVE
APPETITE. DESIRE. THE NEED TO SLEEP
...NO LONELI -NESS...
ISN'T THAT RIGHT?
ALWAYS ASKING YOU TO DO THINGS
HEY, SAKKUN... I'M SORRY FOR...
LONELY UNTIL THE END.
DISAPPEARING IS
I STILL MISS MY APPETITE...
BUT...

NO!
EAT MY NIGHT-MARE..
LET ME TALK
NO...YOUR NIGHTMARE WOULD PROBABLY MAKE ME SICK!
I DON'T THINK
IT'S FAIR THAT ONLY ONE OF US CAN PASS AWAY PEACEFULLY
I WON'T ALLOW IT
Being alone again..
YOU DON'T HOLD BACK AT ALL...
THAT'S REALLY
NOT FAIR...
WHY DO I HAVE TO EAT YOUR LONELINESS?
Teaching me loneliness..

Being left behind...
I won't allow it.

Something which reminds me of summer.
That's the whole of a firefly's life.
We're gone by autumn.
We're forgotten.
chirp
chirp

IT BECOMES MORNING AND THE NIGHT BEGINS AGAIN
THE EVENING BEGINS...
Having fun
Being lonely
But nothing changes
Nothing moves
.....
Being afraid of the end
erases it...
wherever everyone comes from...
I...

The curtain cannot fall.
He remains alone on the stage without hearing of the musical score.
The end cannot be seen.
HOW HOPELESS...

I'M BACK TO NORMAL THANKS TO YOU.
I WAS WRONG
IN THE END THERE WAS ONE THING
THAT I MISTOOK
FOR A NIGHT-MARE
I CAN'T EAT
THE LIGHT
BUT I'LL BE THE ONE
WHO WINS

HEY
THE ORCHESTRA WON'T PUT DOWN THEIR INSTRUMENTS
UNTIL THE CONDUCTOR PUTS DOWN HIS BATON
BAKKUN, I'LL KEEP SHINING
UNTIL THE END OF MY LIFE
chirp
chirp
.....
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?

It was just instinct.

I lived because I was born

My instinct was to desire the nightmares of humans

That was it.

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GUEST 4

Snow and Ink (Part 1)

DIDN'T TSUYUKUSA SAY THAT BEFORE?
WITHOUT HIM BAKU WOULDN'T BE ABLE TO RETURN TO HOW HE WAS
Oh?
I shouldn't have said that?
WE WERE ORIGINALLY ONE, SO PERHAPS...
ALL THREE OF US WERE THINKING...
But we don't really understand
THEN WE REALLY CAN'T REMEMBER HOW LONG AGO...
AND WHY WE CAME TO THIS SHOP...
WE WERE ORIGINALLY ONE?
WHAT DOES THAT MEAN?

It's because that's what I wanted
Calm down!
Ah!
Mist☆r!
Miss!
SLAM
AH!
IT'S SNOWING OUTSIDE

let me hide here!
These pets belong to this shop, right?!
If you want them to live,
whoooo
I'M REALLY ASHAMED!
IT SUDDENLY STARTED SNOWING
SEEING PURE WHITE THINGS MAKES ME PANIC!
Sorry~!

Ah, thanks a lot.
TAKE YOUR TIME LOOKING AROUND THE SHOP IF YOU WANT
click
HMM...
HEY WHERE DID THOSE ANIMALS FROM EARLIER GO?
AH...
HEY WHY ARE YOU SO CUTE AND GLOOMY AT THE SAME TIME?
.....
Do you
sell style?
I MEAN TALENT FOR DESIGN -ING
I'VE BEEN IN A SLUMP FOR A WHILE
Fans
AH, HOW ABOUT YOU MODEL FOR ME?
I love Black
NO WAY!

[TN: 'Sensu' can mean style, but also means 'folding fan' (when written in kanji).]

That's the...
"Ink of proof"
I SHOULD JUST STOP DRAWING
JEEZ
HMM?
POINT
Well..
I'll take your nightmare.

Night mare?
SENPAI
KANAKO-SENPAI
WHAT'S WRONG?
AH!
WHAT IS IT?!
AH, YOU'VE BEEN SPACING OUT ALL THE TIME RECENTLY!
ARE YOU TIRED?
PLEASE DON'T WORK TOO HARD
AH...OH? I'M AT WORK??
A dream?
I PROBABLY BLACKED OUT BECAUSE OF THE WHITENESS
IT'S SNOWING

SO, I'VE GOT TO GET BACK TO WORK.
tap tap
Depressed
It's more calming!
DIZZY
SWISH

DON'T WORK TOO HARD
ahhh!
I can't think of anything!
NO, THIS ISN'T THE TIME TO BE DOING THAT!
FOUR ROUGH DESIGN ILLUSTRATIONS FOR ADVERTS.
YOU WON'T GET FAR
EVEN IF YOU DO,
ahhh!
I can hear voices I shouldn't be able to!
It's a persecution complex!
She wouldn't! She didn't say anything like that!
CAN I BORROW THE ENCYCLOPAEDIA OF PLANTS?
Sorry
AH OKAY
Pretend you didn't see me just now
KANAKO-SENPAI

CONSIDERING IT'S YOURS...
EH.. ISN'T IT REALLY GOOD?
IS THIS YOUR NEW WORK?
NO IT'S ONE THAT GOT REJECTED BEFORE
IT'S NOTHING! TRY YOUR BEST YOUNG PRODIGY!
NO!
DID I SAY SOME -THING BAD?
shocked
AH... EXCUSE ME THEN.
I don't believe it.
WHO did this to me...
No...
I don't really trust myself either
Why don't I trust other people?

Try harder...
SOMEONE FROM OUR COMPANY WHO HAD THEIR WORK DISPLAYED AT THE EXHIBITION THE OTHER DAY HAS WON A PRIZE
A BRILLIANT ACHIEVEMENT BY OUR NEW EMPLOYEE... ASADA...
PLEASE GIVE HER A ROUND OF APPLAUSE..
安藤カナコ様
Wow!
I've been given hands, just like her.
I won't lose.
It's okay, I can still draw.
haha
IT'S THANKS TO YOU!
I DIDN'T DO ANYTHING...
It was your abilities.

She got the prize this time.
Her drawing was on a lot of merchandise.
It was on a billboard at the station too.
That's amazing talent.

haha
I DON'T KNOW WHAT I SHOULD DRAW.
RUB
SWISH
SWISH
I'm no match for the younger ones.
I can't draw either.
I'm getting too old.
I've only got a little experience on top of the talent I never had to begin with.
It's not much.

It's okay.
That's enough.
I won't be noticed by the company or the world if I'm gone.
THAT'S YOUR DARKNESS
reach
GRAB
rustle
BUT YOUR JUNIOR
HAS A DREAM
AND THAT'S THE RESULT OF HER EFFORTS.

Bam!
!
LAMENTING YOUR JEALOUSY AND LACK OF CONFIDENCE..
ISN'T THAT MAKING SOMEONE ELSE AT FAULT?
YOU'RE /
I...
...think it's Asada's fault?

You're saying that I'm bad too?
IT CERTAINLY IS MY FAULT THAT I DON'T HAVE ANY ABILITY...
BUT I'M ALSO WEAK FOR NOT BELIEVING IN OTHERS
THERE ARE THINGS THAT DON'T GO TO PLAN THOUGH
WHAT IS IT?
I TRIED MY BEST AT FIRST
YOU WERE KIND TOO
ASADA WAS CUTE TOO
BUT

EH?
FOR EXAMPLE, LOOK AT KANAKO'S DRAWING
PUT MORE EMPHASIS ON THESE LETTERS
ASADA!
CAN YOU REDO THIS DRAFT?
UH... USING MINE AS A REFERENCE...
THIS IS A VERY BAD EXAMPLE.
YOU CAN'T LET IT GET LIKE THIS.
RIGHT, KANAKO?
That drawing was ...
HAHAHA
THAT'S RIGHT!
GOOD KIDS DON'T COPY!

Cheerful, cheerful
ASADA'S VOICE
Toilet
WAS IT MEANT AS "THAT WAS GOOD CONSIDERING YOU DID IT"?
Complimented for being a good piece of work before
HOW MEAN HAVING THAT HAPPEN IN FRONT OF MY JUNIOR
HEY -
SO, THE BOSS SAID
ABOUT KANAKO-SENPAI..
clatter
AH
IT WAS DIFFICULT NOT TO LAUGH!
I COULDN'T FIGURE OUT THE PURPOSE OF THE DESIGN...
HAHA
ASADA
HOW ON EARTH SHE MANAGED TO GET HIRED

I think so too.
AH... KANAKO..
stand
UMM... I...
Asada
shock
IT'S OKAY
HEY ISN'T THAT TROUBLE?
SLAM
SHE DOESN'T GET ANGRY WHATEVER ANYONE SAYS
I've had enough.
I've had enough.

I tried my best.
I had no talent after all though.
It's enough to give a mature response.
SOMEWHERE THE LIGHT DOESN'T REACH?
THAT'S RIGHT YOU DON'T WANT TO SEE THE WHITE OR YOUR DARKNESS
THEN...
WHERE WILL YOU RUN TO?
The more I realise my ability
the more I hate people
SPLASH

That's right..
SPLASH

WAS SHE SWALLOWED UP?
BAKKUN...
drop

THAT WASN'T VERY LONG...
AH, you're here.
IT'S NATURAL IF YOU HIDE YOUR FEELINGS FROM OTHERS...
THE DARKNESS, THAT IS...
IT'S TOO SOON TO GIVE UP...
.....
I escaped...
!
repeating the same things.
802

WHAT...
IS THAT?!
Ack!
THE NIGHTMARE IS GROWING...
It'll be like poison to you!
STAY BACK, TSUYUKUSA-!
gurgle gurgle
WHAT'S THAT!
Wasn't she swallowed up?
IT'S HER FEELINGS OF RESENTMENT.
THEY'RE MAKING THE NIGHTMARE STRONGER...
IT'S STILL SWALLOWING.

Pause!
Don't think that a nightmare can beat a baku!
Tch..
THAT DIDN'T WORK..
I knew it, it won't be like when he was in his original form.
BAKKUN IS WEAKENING TOO..
THE NIGHTMARE IS STRONG..
COUGH
GUT

At this rate, we'll all be swallowed ...
annoyed
JEEZ...
WHAT IS IT THAT YOU DON'T LIKE?
Kyah

YOU CHOSE YOUR OWN PATH
THEN YOU TRIED TO RUN FROM THAT
GETTING ANGRY AT ME FOR THAT
IS UNREASONABLE
You're making a mess of the shop too
NO...
NO...
THAT'S NOT IT!

TCH
Waaah!
OWNER!
...!
Just once...

whoosh
Abiurues
Boop!
?
ROLL...
The four of them became spheres...
!
It can't be...

!!
AKKUN...

YOU DON'T KNOW WHEN TO GIVE UP
HOW LONG YOU KEEP GRUMBLING
is your choice.

You've picked a fight with the wrong person.

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GUEST 2 Snow and Ink (Part 2)

UH...
GAH...
SO THIS IS THE PATH YOU HAVE CHOSEN FROM THE MANY OPTIONS YOU HAD

PUNCH
It's big Bakkun!
.....!!
GAAH!
boom!
Pause
YUMIKO!

IT STOPPED..
UGH..
GRIN...

KYAAHH!
SLA
SH
...is gradually being eaten...!
The nightmare that was so violent earlier...

growl...
roar
grab
!!
NO, RAKKUN!
SHE STILL ISN'T...
SLASH
!

growl...
HEY.
THAT'S ENOUGH, BAKKUN.
THIS IS BAD... HE'S IN A TRANCE.
HE MIGHT EAT ME AND THAT GIRL.

GRAB
Gah...
Uh...
It's the "light" that's the source of my energy.
but it's like poison to Bakkun.

COUGH
If they're able to cancel each other out correctly...
Cough
Cough
Cough
BAKKUN WHAT WOULD HAPPEN IF YOU DIED?
Cough
Cough
Cough
Cough
fssh...
Cough
!
fssh
boom
Ka
Ka
Ka
Ka

Fssssh
Fssssh
OH, I'M BACK TO NORMAL!
Mm...
Wobble
THINK AHEAD, GAKKUN...
TSUYUKUSA LOOKS HALF DEAD...

POP
!!!
??
?
just now...
THE NIGHTMARE IS ONLY DORMANT
SHE ISN'T FULLY CONSCIOUS YET
I...
...UP TO HER
THE REST IS...

Ah...
That's...
It's...
black...
WHAT DID I DO WRONG?
So why did I choose this path?
I wonder why...
I really understand that...
I don't have any talent.

WELL THE BLACK SWALLOWS UP THE OTHER COLOURS LIKE A BLACK HOLE
SO DON'T USE IT ALL OVER
COMBINE IT WITH OTHER COLOURS OR USE IT IN THE RIGHT PLACES
THAT KIND OF THING
CRA
SH
Say it
SOONER!
IT LEFT A FOOTPRINT ..
OF COURSE

SLAM
AHHHH!
BLACK FOOTPRINTS FROM MIXED COLOURS?
IT'S BOLD AND I LIKE IT
OKAY!
AH...
thump
thump
OKAY. HERE ARE YOUR NEXT ASSIGNMENTS
I really was happy.
I WAS PRAISED!

blush
I don't have the confidence to try my best
No
I was excited whenever I saw a blank piece of paper.
It was always like that...
Huh
That's right...
I said to other people
Even though I'm saying "I want to..."
Please model for me!"
...and I looked for ink.
I thought "What shall I draw next?"
Before even "trying my best" I should have been able to be captivated by it...
In the end, all I could think of was drawing.
clench

Don't think I'll take responsibility because I'm worrying!
SMASH
The one...
Right...it's not that I'm resenting others...
I resent is myself.
The one who kept finding fault was me, no one else.
There must be something else I have to do...
...before complaining that it's my age or my talent.
That's no reason
to abandon
my duty and my wishes.

RUSTLE
WOW
IT'S LIKE SNOW
POP
!!
AH, I GOT INK ON MY SHOES
FSSSH

When did that happen?
OH...
SORRY
GYAA!
Jmmp!!

I received your nightmare.
Without a doubt,
PUSH
GYAAH..
Please come by---
Hey!
Wait, Bakkun!
grab
What are you doing?
Ah!
scratch
scratch
HEY...
You're a baku that eats nightmares, aren't you?!

I'VE RESEARCHED THEM BEFORE
For a fortune teller.
THEY'RE AN IMAGINARY ANIMAL FROM SOME COUNTRY
BAKU LIVE BY EATING PEOPLE'S NIGHTMARES
AND THEY LIVE IN THE WORLD OF DREAMS
IT'S SHAPED LIKE A BEAR,
WITH AN ELEPHANT'S NOSE
ALSO
IT LOOKS LIKE
A RHINO COW AND TIGER...

TO THINK THAT THEY REALLY EXIST
OH BUT IS THIS MY DREAM?
Hey?! This is a shop?! What time is it?!
SHOCK
I WAS ALWAYS FEELING DEPRESSED,
BUT NOW I FEEL BETTER
clatter
I'VE GOT A DEADLINE COMING UP!
UH OH I'VE GOT TO GET BACK TO WORK!
THANK YOU, BAKKUN!
Slam
YOU ATE MY NIGHTMARE, DIDN'T YOU?

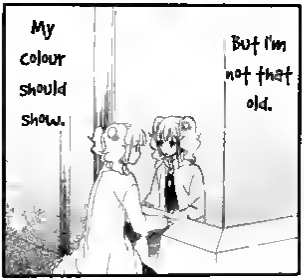
TRY YOUR BEST

FROM NOW ON!

SO THE STORM HAS PASSED...

.....

slam



Well...

If you compare them, they're as different as "day and night", "the crow and the hawk",

"snow and ink".

THAT'S RIGHT.
Even though it's like I don't have the will to win.
I'm not willing to lose either.
Hey Bakkun.
THE NEXT CUSTOMER WILL DEFINITELY BE MINE.
I don't have any light so I can't use any power
YOU'LL DIE THIS TIME FOR SURE...
I'M NOT GOING TO DIE...
.....

I know...
about you
I wonder...
if they were a little similar...
THAT GIRL KNEW ABOUT YOU BAKKUN
IT WASN'T ME. SHE KNEW ABOUT THE BAKU
YOU CAN'T REALLY SAY THAT IF YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT WORK
AH...
SHE TOLD ME TO TRY MY BEST..

there are such dark things when you look up..

Funeral March Nightmare 1 END

Happy Birthday
Syrenis!
For quite some time we've been apart,
But you've always, always been in my heart.
Don't forget write and call me dear,
I like to hear what you've done and laugh.
And now this message I send
I love you so much my bestest best friend.
Vixi

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EDITOR

Oh! I love this series so much! I don't really know how to define it though... It's a very chaotic manga, with a lot of laughs... still serious though~! One volume to go~! Hope to see you then too~! <3 Viki

VIA

TRANSLATOR

KAI

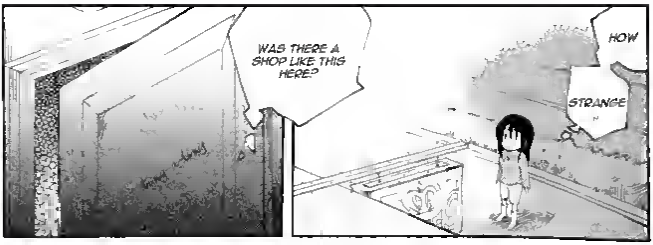
Hey everyone~! Thanks for reading our releases of Nightmare so far! If you're enjoying it please try and spread the word. I think this series is quite underappreciated! I seem to be following my habit of liking the sidekick character yet again because I can't help being charmed by Tsuyukuse But I also have a soft spot for Baku and his assistants. <3

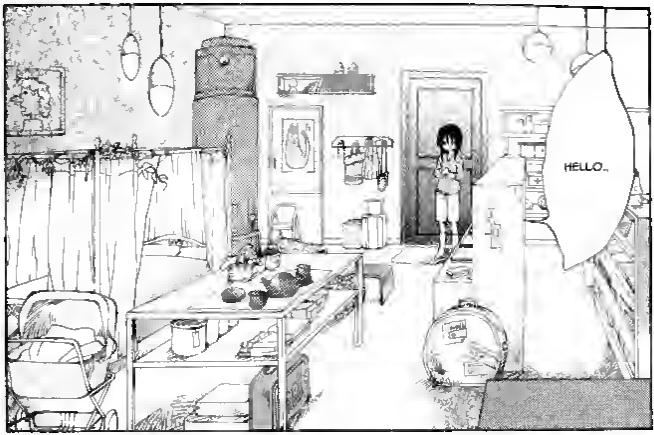
P.S. Didn't grown up Baku look awesome?

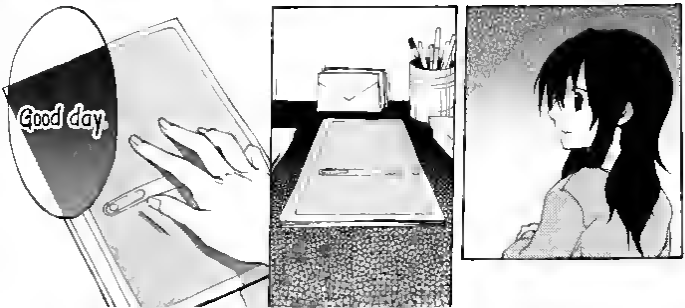
ding-a-ling
OWNER.
A CUSTOMER HAS ARRIVED.
The personification of Baku.
The dweller of dreams, that feeds on human nightmares.
If you were to prove the existence of this creature -
I WONDER WHAT KIND OF NIGHTMARE THEY'LL HAVE.
I WONDER WHAT THEY'LL BUY.

SPECIAL GUEST 1

Special Preview


WAS THERE A SHOP LIKE THIS HERE?
HOW
STRANGE


HELLO..


Good day.

Welcome to Aries.

...?
THAT'S THE..

A child?
WE HAVE MANY ANTIQUES IN THIS SHOP
IT SEEMS THAT YOU'VE FOUND WHAT YOU WERE LOOKING FOR

what was that?
It spoke...
YES THAT'S A DREAM NOTEBOOK WHICH HOLDS YOUR MEMORIES
AH
NOTE-BOOK OF "MEMO-RIES"
NO, I DON'T REALLY...
NO...
IT MUST BE SOMETHING IMPORTANT TO YOU
HOWEVER, IN RETURN FOR ANY ITEMS FROM THIS SHOP...

ah
Wait a minute...
I DON'T REALLY..
NEED A.
DROP

YUYUKO ARE YOU GOING TO MAJOR IN WRITING?
THIS IS... HIGH SCHOOL?
THE SHOP...
CLATTER
SAEKO! LONG TIME NO SEE!
!
WELL, ISN'T THAT GREAT
PEOPLE WITH DREAMS HAVE IT SO EASY

YOU'RE AN IDIOT
I remember...
This is...
RUMBLE
...my "memory".
A SMART PERSON WOULDN'T DO SOMETHING SO DUMB.
This girl also...
IT'S IMPOSSIBLE FOR YOU.
Those same eyes...

What is this?
!
NO, LET GO!
She's leaving...
Who are you...?
Wait...!
IT'S OKAY

This shop is...
However, I'll take
I WON'T ASK FOR TOO MUCH
a shop where people who've drowned in their dreams go.
your nightmare as payment.
what is...
...this?

SPECIAL GUEST 2

TSUYUKUSA'S HOSPITALITY

I'm going to get sick, you see.
Stop that, Sakuya!
Hand that over!
I'M NOT COLD. I'M NOT COLD
ARE YOU AN IDIOT? IT'S ONLY COLD BECAUSE YOU SAY IT IS!
AH. IT'S TRUE! I'M NOT COLD! THAT'S AMAZING, MR. COW!
DON'T CALL ME MR. COW!

Ahem, that can't be helped.
BIG SIS IS IN BED WITH A COLD
AND BIG BROTHER IS DOING THE ACCOUNTS
ACHOO ACHOO
My nose is stuffed up.
WELL...
Boop
WHY DO I HAVE TO GO AND BUY A KOTATSU ANYWAY...?

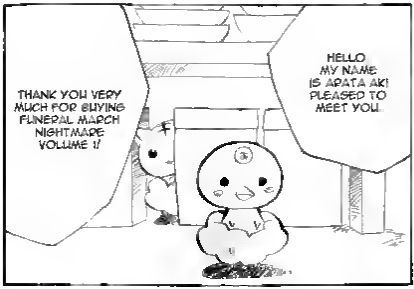
WHY ARE YOU MAKING THAT FACE?
GOSHI...
JUST BAKKUN'S HOUSE?
DOESN'T MATTER! AT MY HOUSE, WE REALISED SANTA DIDN'T EXIST LAST WINTER.
Poor Mm
You can't leave humans to idiots
THEY'RE SO USELESS...
I ASKED SANTA FOR A STOVE, BUT IT NEVER CAME...
That guy with a beard...
OKAY...!
Owner have you got a cold too?
achoo
Beep! Beep! hotpot!
I'll make you my special hotpot!
I'm a good cook!
It's effective against colds and warms you up!
Winter means having hotpot!

THANK YOU FOR WAITING EVERYONE!
WOW!!!
It's the firefly family special, snail hotpot!
bubble bubble
tada--!!
Ah! It looks nice and hot!
Tsuyukusa (a dream eating firefly) whose staple food is human dreams.
His secondary foods are snails and larva.
fssss

Rhino's Daily Routine

HEY THERE WAS SOMETHING LIKE A CAT AROUND HERE EARLIER
It came into this shop
WHERE DID IT GO?
MEOW
LISTEN UP, KID.
DO YOU EVEN CARE ABOUT SELLING ANYTHING?
It's all old stuff, nothing interes-ting.
Looks like another stormy day.

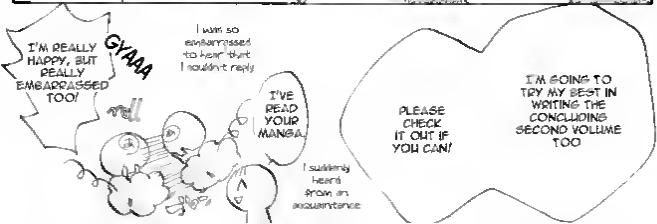
I'm so surprised! I can't believe it! What is going on?
That damned kid!
I think he's the same kind of thing as Baku.
Who is he? Who is he? Who is he?
BANG BANG
BANG
Stupid! What are you doing?!
Huh? What are you talking about? Are you an idiot? I don't get it! Just die already!
AH... EVERYONE FROM BAKU'S PLANET HATES THEIR FELLOW MAN
Are you listening?! Why'd you bring him here?!
I can't believe he abused me and threw things around! What is going on?
What is going on?
You die too!
He said it twice...


THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR BUYING FUNERAL MARCH NIGHTMARE VOLUME 1!
HELLO. MY NAME IS ARATA AKI. PLEASED TO MEET YOU.

FUNERAL MARCH NIGHTMARE - BEHIND THE SCENES
HEY!

I WAS ABLE TO PREPARE MY FIRST COMIC TO BE PUBLISHED.
THANKS TO EVERYONE'S ASSISTANCE
Oh... Was Jukyuushi first...?
AMIDST THE EXCITEMENT OF STARTING MY FIRST SERIES,

I wonder if I'll get things like this...
I'D BE GLAD IF YOU ENJOYED THIS MANGA
I'M REALLY HAPPY THAT THERE WERE PEOPLE WHO READ THE SERIES
AND PEOPLE WHO SENT ME LETTERS AND ILLUSTRATIONS
T: Letters from readers

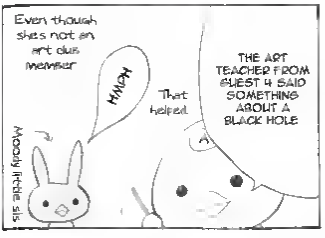

I'M REALLY HAPPY, BUT REALLY EMBARRASSED TOO!
GYAAA
I was so embarrassed to hear that I couldn't reply
I'VE READ YOUR MANGA
I suddenly heard from an acquaintance
PLEASE CHECK IT OUT IF YOU CAN!
I'M GOING TO TRY MY BEST IN WRITING THE CONCLUDING SECOND VOLUME TOO

Mag Garden * My manager
My family * My friends
Miya * Azu
Free * Garo

Everyone else involved with
"Funeral March Nightmare".
All the readers too!

* Thank you very much! *

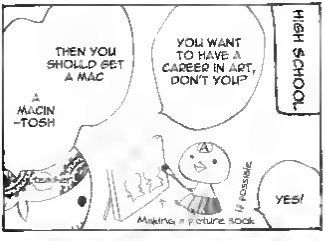
End of volume extra An authentic account Funeral March Nightmare Insomnia


Even though she's not an art club member
HMM
That helped
THE ART TEACHER FROM QUEST 4 SAID SOMETHING ABOUT A BLACK HOLE
Moody little sis

Her outfit in the preview was gloomy, so I've changed it a little.

I remember being happy when the day that the magazine came out was the same day as my birthday.

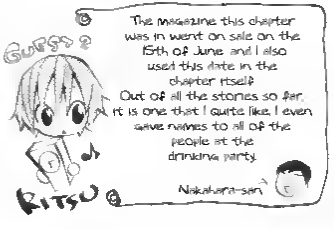
Her school uniform was the uniform of my school.

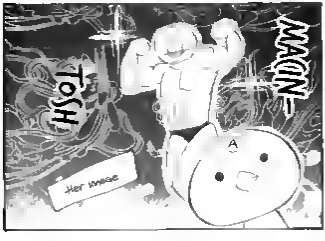


The magazine this chapter was in went on sale on the 15th of June and I also used this date in the chapter itself.

Out of all the stories so far, it is one that I quite like. I even gave names to all of the people at the drinking party.

Nakahara-san

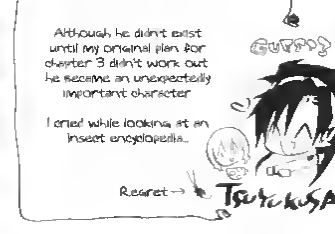


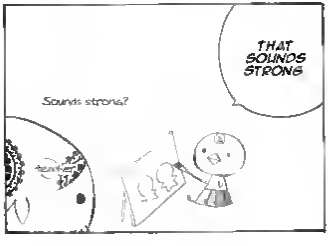


Although he didn't exist until my original plan for chapter 3 didn't work out he became an unexpectedly important character.

I cried while looking at an insect encyclopedia...

Regret →





Dealing with the big Bakkun was difficult.

I wanted to write about the junior Assists side of the story too.

I based the story around the colour black. I always seem to be writing about colours that are ignored.

I actually don't really get it.